

36.11.415 BIODIVERSITY - PATCH SIZE AND SHAPE (1) The department shall emulate natural spatial patterns of patch size and shape to the extent practicable. Underlying processes and their resultant pre-management patterns shall be taken into account in design of projects while recognizing that previous management activities may have altered the landscape through fragmentation or disruption of linkages. The department shall consider the effects of fragmentation and connectivity at the project level.

(2) The department shall consider other factors that influence the ability to emulate natural spatial patterns, including public sentiments, and other resources. (History: 77-1-202, 77-1-209, 77-5-201, 77-5-204, MCA; IMP, 77-5-116, 77-5-204, 77-5-206, 77-5-207, MCA; NEW, 2003 MAR p. 397, Eff. 3/14/03.)